

The Vine

Windsor United Methodist Church

9500 Windsor Lake Boulevard, Columbia, SC
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July 2024

Our Mission: To connect Christ and community and to demonstrate the love of God to all through Jesus Christ as empowered by the Holy Spirit.



PASTOR CLAIRE'S JOURNAL JULY 1, 2024

Greetings, Windsor UMC! As I write this today, I look around my house, which is still in a state of chaos and clutter from the moving boxes, packing paper, and just the process of settling into a new place. Although my current living experience appears as chaos and clutter, the reality of my life is the abiding peace of God. During our worship service on Sundays, we “pass the peace.” Why? Passing the peace is an ancient tradition that Jesus practiced; over and over, he said, “Peace be with you.” Paul took it a step further in his epistles (letters to the churches) when he wrote in his greeting, “Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ” (Philippians 1:1-2).

Passing the peace is the sacred moment when we share God's peace with our siblings in Christ. It's not a time for a “catch-up chat” in the aisle. It is a *reverent time* of sharing the peace of Christ by saying, “The peace of the Lord be with you.” And our response is, “And also with you.” In so doing, we are recalling the peace of Jesus. It conditions our hearts toward peace and love. The word “peace” is rich and full of meaning; in Hebrew, the language of ancient Israel, it is the word “Shalom.” It means “peace of mind, to join, to tie together into a whole, or wholeness.” Peace (Shalom) is to cause flourishing and wholeness, a state in which natural needs are

satisfied and natural gifts are fruitfully employed, a state that inspires joyful wonder. In other words, peace is the wholeness of God, which God promises to all of God's children.

Although we are living through some unprecedented turbulent times in our world, we can rely on God's promise of peace. Of Shalom, Jesus said to his disciples in John 14:27, “Peace I leave with you: *my peace I give to you.*” We do not have old, second-hand, shop-worn peace; we have the peace of Jesus Christ, which he *left us*. That's good news! “Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be children of God” (Matthew 5:9). Don't those words take on a more profound understanding? Peacemakers are God's people who are going on to perfection in this life, who are sharing the wholeness of Jesus Christ with the world, bringing mercy, peace, and justice to a world starving for wholeness. When we exhibit the disposition of heartfelt peacemaking, we model Jesus Christ through our behavior toward all of those we meet on our faith journeys.

Sharing the peace of Christ may feel strange and make us uncomfortable; however, it trains us to become more like our Lord. This coming Sunday, I challenge all of you to greet your neighbor with “The peace of the Lord be with you.” Let us step out of worldly conversations and step into the way of Jesus—the way of peace. Let us allow our hearts to be hewn toward peace. Toward love. After all, Jesus is the Prince of Peace.

The peace of the Lord be with you.

Pastor Claire

Saying Goodbye to Pastor Brown

By Donna Woodard

As we gathered on June 15, 2024 to say goodbye to a friend and pastor, there was laughter, good food and tears.

We had a delicious dinner of baked chicken, fried fish and all the fixings and desserts you can imagine. No one left there hungry. The United Methodist Men fried the fish, and Kathy Robinson and Mitzi Shipman cleaned and cooked the chicken. Thank you to all of you for your hard work. The clean-up crew was amazing and thank you all for the cleaning and the setup help.

After eating, SPRC, LRE, Susan Finley, Michelle Nicholson and Worship and Music all talked about their time spent with Pastor Brown doing the ministries of the church. The choir sang two of Pastor Brown's favorite songs. The United Methodist Men presented Pastor Brown with the Susanna Wesley Award of Excellence. This award was established to honor women who have served Jesus Christ and the United Methodist Church. Last but not least, Kathy Hart helped us tell Pastor Brown about the intangible gifts she gave us during her ministry here. We also gave her gifts of love and other items.

It's always hard to say goodbye to your preacher, but knowing she is going on to serve her next church, we know in our hearts that they are receiving a gift from God and a good preacher. We cherished our time with Pastor Brown and wish her well in all her future endeavors.

Thank you, Pastor Brown, for your years of service, love and friendship over the last six years. We will miss you and look forward to seeing you down the road.



WINDSOR SOUP KITCHEN AT WASHINGTON STREET UMC

Article and photos by Becky Leonard

Windsor UMC continues to help with the noon-time meal servings at Washington Street UMC Soup Cellar on the first Monday of the month. At the beginning of Covid, the Soup Cellar changed from a sit-down meal serving to a bagged meal format with the purpose to be able to continue to provide a meal to those in need in downtown Columbia. The Soup Cellar has retained this format for more than four years and plans to continue it in the foreseeable future.



*Terrence Chisholm,
Soup Cellar Manager*

On Windsor's May 6 serving day, Soup Cellar manager Terrence Chisholm made vegetable beef soup. Along with a cup of hot soup, the bagged meal included a tuna fish sandwich, orange, doughnut, and bottle of water. Debbo Lackore, Susan Caskey and Becky Leonard helped serve the 106 guests who came that morning.

Our June 3 bagged meal was nearly identical to the May serving, with the exception of the soup. 96 guests enjoyed that morning's delicious hearty chicken noodle soup. Michelle Nicholson, Tremaine Sails-Dunbar, Susan Caskey and Debbo Lackore helped prepare and serve the noon-day meal at the Soup Cellar.

Windsor's next serving days will be Mondays, July 1 and August 5. If you would like to help on either of these two days, please contact Becky Leonard at 803-466-4222 or fleonardz@hotmail.com. We begin meal preparation around 9:15 a.m. and finish serving at 12:30 p.m.



Thank You, Latino Community Development!

Many thanks to Latino Community Development and their Executive Director, Tanya Rodriguez-Hodges. On May 30, they hosted a health outreach event in Windsor's Harbor Hall. As part of their program, they presented a check to Windsor UMC in support of our food pantry! Pastor Brown was there to accept their generous donation on Windsor's behalf.

Photo courtesy of Latino Community Development



Windsor Food Pantry

The number of families facing food insecurity continues to increase. Windsor's food pantry helps families who come to the church office in need of food as well as some of those who attend the Skills for Work and Life Program on our church campus.

Many thanks to those who have donated to our food pantry. If you would like to help, please consider donating food items from the following list or donating funds so that we may purchase the food (please indicate your donation is for Food Pantry).

We are requesting donations of canned tuna, vegetable/canola oil and white rice in 1 or 2 pound bags, however, any of the foods on the following list would be appreciated! Bins are located outside the sanctuary or you may drop off your food items at the church office.

- white rice (1 or 2 pound bags)
- spaghetti sauce
- salt
- individual fruit/applesauce cups
- Ajax liquid dish detergent and toilet paper are also appreciated.
- dried red and pinto beans (in 1 pound bags)
- vegetable/canola oil
- canned tuna, chicken and Vienna sausage
- pasta noodles (angel hair and elbow)

Thank you for helping those in need, Windsor.

Backpack Project for 2024-2025 School Year!

By the Outreach Team

Wednesday, August 7 – School Starts! Outreach looks forward to our annual backpack project helping children in need whose families are involved in the Skills for Life and Work Program. Along with the needed school supplies for each student's school and grade level, Ms. Nelly Jolley, Outreach worker for Richland 2 School District, will give us their color choices to make it easier to choose a backpack for them.

Watch for more information in the weekly *Leaf* during July.



May 19, Pentecost Sunday Worship Service

Kristen Hill leads Children's Time celebrating the birth of the church.

Photo by Kathy Hart



PFC Mitchell Brown

We are beaming with pride for Mitchell. We couldn't be prouder of him as our son, but even more so because he chose to serve our country. What a commendable thing for anyone to do. Our flight and our stay were good. But I believe our excitement for why we were taking the trip made everything alright.

We want to take the time again to say thank you for all your prayers and love as Mitchell graduated from boot camp. Your words of encouragement and well wishes have meant the world to us during this critical time in his life. We are so grateful for your love and support and couldn't have done it without you. Please continue to keep him in your prayers.

Mark and Pastor Leatha Brown



Wednesday, July 10 – Our Next SC Thrive Free Produce Distribution!

By Becky Leonard

The SC Thrive distribution continues at Windsor UMC with free, fresh produce items being offered and changing a bit with our local growing season. Come join us for what has also become a community gathering event, with neighbors, former co-workers and old schoolmates meeting up.

Windsor UMC is among several churches partnering with SC Thrive as a monthly food distribution point to strengthen the nutrition and food supply for residents in the Columbia Northeast area (zip code 29223). The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) is a federal program that helps supplement the diets of residents living in "food deserts" by providing foods like fruits, vegetables and whole grains at no cost.

Kale, squash, sweet potatoes, lettuce and strawberries were provided for approximately 120 families for both of our distributions in May and June. Windsor volunteers provide the hands and feet of the distribution. They pick up the food at the warehouse, package the boxed produce into family-sized portions and set the food out for families.

This food is available to ALL of us, free of charge, and changes during our local growing season. Everyone in our congregation is invited to come to pick it up. Our next distributions are scheduled for **Wednesdays, July 10 and August 7**. An email will be sent out closer to those dates reminding folks of the date and giving the times of the distribution and, hopefully, the food items we will be handing out. If you would like to volunteer to pick-up, package or distribute the food, please contact Kathy Hart or Becky Leonard.



Photos by Noreen Doughty and Kathy Hart

What (and who) is LRE?

By Lisa McAlpine

You will hear people at Windsor refer to LRE at various times, but do you know what LRE is—other than the people who deliver the Windsor Christmas ornament to your door every year?

LRE is short for Lifestyle Relational Evangelism and started here at Windsor more than 30 years ago. As a national movement, the purpose of LRE is to use the building of friendships and other positive relationships as a means to introduce the gospel to non-believers. Here at Windsor, it also encompasses facets of the Stephen Ministry to provide one-on-one support for those in a congregation with needs during difficult times. In its early days at Windsor, LRE members would prepare packets of information about Windsor and the Northeast Richland County community for all new homeowners in the area. These packets would then be taken to the new homeowners (found by reading the home sales listed in the newspaper each week) by teams of two LRE team members with a personal welcome to the area. As the team grew, it also became a means to check in on members and frequent attenders of Windsor who hadn't been to church in a while or were ill or in need. As the Northeast population exploded it was no longer feasible to visit all new homeowners, so the focus shifted to following up with visitors to Windsor. If a visitor left their contact information with the church, LRE would attempt to make personal contact with the family the next day—hence our tradition of Monday night visits. Each team of two Windsorites would follow up with the family providing information about the goings on at Windsor, the Sunday school classes, and how to contact the pastor. LRE also continued to visit with those in the regular congregation who were in need or hadn't been to church lately.

At some point, the group also took on the “task” of making and delivering a Christmas tree ornament to each Windsor family. Some ornaments are bought, some are semi-homemade, and some are the idea and handiwork of LRE members, but all are infused with God's love for you through the members of LRE. It takes us about three weeks between Thanksgiving and the week before Christmas, but we try to make actual person-to-person contact with each Windsor family during this time. If we can't make face-to-face contact, the ornaments are left with love on your door. This has become a tradition that many long-time members look forward to each year—there are even a couple of families who have a “Windsor-LRE ornament only” tree in their homes each Christmas.

Today, LRE continues with visits to “old” and “new” Windsorites and our annual Christmas deliveries. Many of our visits today are porch visits due to ongoing concerns with COVID, and illnesses in general, but the prayers of the team are left with each visit we make and with all of our Windsor family. We currently make visits on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month during the early evening hours (we meet at 6:30 p.m.) and try to call ahead to make sure someone will be home before we visit. If you are interested in being part of the LRE team (we are always grateful to have more teams for visits) or have any questions about LRE at Windsor, please contact Lisa McAlpine at lmcalpine@att.net or talk to a current team member (Peggy Hill, Kristen Hill, Kathy and Ivey Hart, Lisa McAlpine, Becky McMillion and Charles Shipman).



Photo by Kathy Hart

In the Vendor Room at Annual Conference

Every year at Annual Conference, a space is set up for vendors or organizations to show off their products or programs. Ivey and Kathy Hart were there promoting Salkehatchie Summer Service at one table while Charles Shipman was promoting Men N Ministry at another. It gives everyone a chance to see all the great things that United Methodists are involved in. For fun, Charles, Kathy and Ivey had a wild picture taken at the United Women in Faith table.



Photo courtesy of Kathy Hart

Ordination

It was a special day for Pastor Claire Van Den Berg. Ordination of elders is treated as a solemn ceremony at Annual Conference. The red stoles are placed over the shoulders of the newly ordained. For more information about this ceremony and other events at Annual Conference, check out the latest *Advocate*.

Photos by Kathy Hart



Financial Summary through May 31, 2024

| | Income through May 31, 2024 | Expenses through May 31, 2024 | 2024 Budget | Percent of Total |
|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Regular Income (offering, Sunday school, fees, other) | \$ 84,015.79 | | \$ 225,000.00 | 37% |
| Administration (buildings, staff, & staff expenses) | | \$ 104,073.73 | \$ 249,544.00 | 42% |
| Apportionments | | 517.34 | 2,845.00 | 18% |
| Nurture (worship, communications, education, family ministries, music ministry & youth) | | 1137.03 | 2,450.00 | 46% |
| Outreach | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Witness (evangelism & LRE) | | 49.14 | 790.00 | 6% |
| Total Regular Income & Expenses | \$ 84,015.79 | \$ 105,777.24 | \$ 255,629.00 | 41% |



**God Bless
America!**

Please Pray for:
Our Military,
Law Enforcement Members,
First Responders,
Healthcare Workers
and their families.
People affected by the ongoing
violence, fire, hurricanes, tornadoes
and other bad weather.



Average Attendance

10 a.m. Worship Service—Sanctuary

| | |
|-------------------------|----|
| May 1 to May 31, 2024 | 48 |
| June 1 to June 30, 2024 | 44 |

All Sanctuary worship services are held with COVID-19 protocols in place.

Sunday School

| | |
|-------------------------|----|
| May 1 to May 31, 2024 | 13 |
| June 1 to June 30, 2024 | 12 |

Sunday School figures reflect those participating in Zoom, GoToMeeting, conference call and in-person classes.

Terra Bella Worship Service

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| May 1 to May 31, 2024 | 5 |
| June 1 to June 30, 2024 | 5 |

Our Windsor Family

WINDSOR'S DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO...

† The family of Millie Ann Woodard Jernigan, a long-time Windsor member, who passed away at age 95 on May 17 in Maryville, Tennessee.

If you have a "Windsor Family" item that you would like to share with our church family, please notify the church office at windsorumc@bellsouth.net or 803-788-1858.



United Methodist Men Breakfast Meeting

All men are invited to join Windsor's United Methodist Men the first Sunday of the month at Lizard's Thicket on Two Notch Road near I-20. We meet at **7:30 a.m.** Please join us for food and fellowship at our next meetings on **Sundays, July 7 and August 4.**

Rock Hill Welcomes Salkehatchie

By Kathy Hart

On April 22, Rock Hill was hit with a devastating hail and wind storm. It is one thing to hear a TV anchor report on it, and another to see the destruction first hand. With hail balls having pounded against the siding exterior walls, it looked like polka dotted houses. Roofing trucks were parked up and down streets with new roof repairs happening. Ivey and I were in Rock Hill at the Salkehatchie Camp with 30 youth and adults working on houses.

Please pray the people of Rock Hill as they continue to recover from the storm and pray that all the Salkehatchie workers stay healthy and hydrated and complete the repairs in spite of the heat.



Calendar July 2024



Monday, July 1

7:30 PM AI Anon - Rm 8

Tuesday, July 2

1:00 PM Bible Study – Classroom 1

6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Thursday, July 4

Church Office Closed



Saturday, July 6

8:30 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)

3:00 PM Fil-Am Praise Band Rehearsal - HH

Sunday, July 7

7:30 AM UMM Breakfast - Lizard's Thicket

9:00 AM Sunday School (see *Leaf* for details)

9:00 AM Filipino American Church - HH

10:00 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary

7:00 PM BSA Troop 2870 - HH/Pavilion

Monday, July 8

7:30 PM AI Anon - Rm 8

Tuesday, July 9

1:00 PM Bible Study – Classroom 1

6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary

7:00 PM RCSD Citizens Academy Alumni

Wednesday, July 10

11:00 AM SC Thrive Food Distribution - HH

Thursday, July 11

6:00 PM Church Council Meeting - HH

Saturday, July 13

8:30 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)

3:00 PM Fil-Am Praise Band Rehearsal - HH

Sunday, July 14

9:00 AM Sunday School (see *Leaf* for details)

9:00 AM Filipino American Church - HH

10:00 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary

7:00 PM BSA Troop 2870 - HH/Pavilion

Monday, July 15

7:30 PM AI Anon - Rm 8

Tuesday, July 16

1:00 PM Bible Study – Classroom 1

6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Saturday, July 20

8:30 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)

3:00 PM Fil-Am Praise Band Rehearsal - HH

Sunday, July 21

9:00 AM Sunday School (see *Leaf* for details)

9:00 AM Filipino American Church - HH

10:00 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary

7:00 PM BSA Troop 2870 - HH/Pavilion

Monday, July 22

7:30 PM AI Anon - Rm 8

Tuesday, July 23

1:00 PM Bible Study – Classroom 1

6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Saturday, July 27

8:30 AM Prayer Group (Conference call)

3:00 PM Fil-Am Praise Band Rehearsal

6:00 PM Fil-Am Prayer Meeting - HH

Sunday, July 28

9:00 AM Sunday School (see *Leaf* for details)

9:00 AM Filipino American Church - HH

10:00 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary

7:00 PM BSA Troop 2870 - HH/Pavilion

Monday, July 29

7:30 PM AI Anon - Rm 8

Tuesday, July 30

1:00 PM Bible Study – Classroom 1

6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary

**THIS CALENDAR IS SUBJECT TO
CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE**
If you have any additions, changes and/or
corrections to the calendar, please notify Julie in
the office (803-788-1858). Thank You.



July

| | |
|--------------------|----|
| Calvin McCoy, Sr. | 1 |
| Melvin Wolff | 2 |
| Isaac Byrd | 9 |
| Al Robinson | 12 |
| Michelle Nicholson | 16 |
| Dottie Cronise | 18 |
| Inez Nicholson | 24 |
| John Mullikin | 25 |
| Becky Buie | 27 |
| Jim Hinson | 28 |
| Kara Lewis | 31 |



August

| | |
|------------------|----|
| Becky Leonard | 8 |
| Rodney Mills | 8 |
| Sarah Smith | 11 |
| Anne Richardson | 22 |
| Mac Horton | 25 |
| Mary Nichols | 25 |
| William Frierson | 25 |
| Carla Schwab | 25 |
| Marilyn Summers | 27 |
| Calvin Edwards | 29 |
| Gene Lewis | 31 |
| Monya Havekost | 31 |
| Anita Schmidt | 31 |



Photos by Becky Leonard

WELCOME PASTOR CLAIRE

By Teresa Kitchens

On June 30, 2024, SPRC hosted a welcome reception for Reverend Claire Van Den Berg. Thanks to the generosity of the Windsor congregation, we had plenty of good food. We also received many donations for the Old-Fashioned Pounding which should keep Pastor Claire's pantry stocked for some time. A special thanks to Kathy Hart for the framed photographs of Reverend Claire's ordination and to Michelle Nicholson for the flower arrangement. These were beautiful additions to the collection of pounding gifts. On behalf of SPRC, we truly appreciate everyone who pitched in to help make Pastor Claire feel welcome at Windsor.



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church™

THE VINE

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Send articles by the 20th of the month by email to Julie at windsorumc@bellsouth.net or place articles in *The Vine* mailbox in Room 10.